

Blue Ridge High

2151 Fews Chapel Rd.

Greer, SC 29651

Grades 9-12 High School

Enrollment 1,152 Students

Principal Reena Watson 864-355-1800

Superintendent Dr. Phinnize J. Fisher 864-355-8860

Board Chair Charles J. Saylor 864-268-3128

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2006 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

ABSOLUTE RATING

GOOD

Absolute Ratings of High Schools with Students like Ours

Excellent

Good

Average

Below Average

Unsatisfactory

10

10

2

0

0

IMPROVEMENT RATING

BELOW AVERAGE

The school's Improvement rating was raised one level because of substantial improvement in the achievement of students belonging to historically underachieving groups of students.

ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS

NO

This school met 12 out of 13 objectives. The objectives included performance and participation of students in various groups.

Definition: As required by the United States Department of Education, Adequate Yearly Progress specifies that the statewide target is met for All Students and for the following subgroups: Racial/Ethnic, Subsidized Meals, Disability, and Limited English Proficiency.

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE GOAL

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

PERFORMANCE TRENDS OVER 4-YEAR PERIOD

Year	Absolute Rating	Improvement Rating	Adequate Yearly Progress
2003	Excellent	Excellent	No
2004	Excellent	Excellent	Yes
2005	Excellent	Good	No
2006	Good	Below Average	No

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

- Excellent – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Good – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Average – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Below Average – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Unsatisfactory – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal

HIGH SCHOOL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM (HSAP) EXAM PASSAGE RATE: SECOND YEAR STUDENTS

	Our School			High Schools with Students Like Ours		
Percent	2004	2005	2006	2004	2005	2006
Passed 2 subtests	79.5	76.4	81.0	83.4	80.6	82.2
Passed 1 subtest	11.0	15.9	9.5	9.6	10.2	9.0
Passed no subtests	9.5	7.6	9.5	7.8	9.2	9.6

HSAP PASSAGE RATE BY SPRING 2006

	Our School	High Schools with Students Like Ours
Percent	91.6%	94.5%

ELIGIBILITY FOR LIFE SCHOLARSHIP

	Our School	High Schools with Students Like Ours
Percent of		
Seniors eligible for LIFE Scholarships at four-year institutions*	11.2	24.1
Seniors who met the SAT/ACT requirement	11.6	26.0
Seniors who met the grade point average	11.2	51.8

*Using only the SAT/ACT and grade point average requirements

GRADUATION RATE

	Our School	High Schools with Students Like Ours
Number of Students	270	385
Number of Diplomas	194	279
Rate	71.9%	73.5%

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A Not Applicable N/AV Not Available N/C Not Collected N/R Not Reported I/S Insufficient Sample

END OF COURSE TESTS

Percent of students scoring 70 or above on:	Our School	High Schools with Students Like Ours
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	74.0	81.7
English 1	72.9	71.7
Biology 1/Applied Biology 2	71.0	69.9
Physical Science	46.4	57.1
All Subjects	63.8	70.5

PERFORMANCE BY STUDENT GROUPS

	HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2006		Eligibility for LIFE Scholarship		Graduation Rate		
	n	%	n	%	n	%	Met State Objective
All Students	263	91.6	224	11.2	194	71.9	No
Gender							
Male	122	87.7	106	13.2	128	67.2	N/A
Female	141	95.0	118	9.3	140	77.1	N/A
Racial/Ethnic Group							
White	245	91.4	208	12.0	248	74.2	N/A
African American	12	91.7	13	0.0	15	60.0	N/A
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	0	0.0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	2	100.0	2	0.0	4	25.0	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	0	0.0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Racial/Ethnic Group							
Non disabled	227	96.9	191	13.1	235	76.2	N/A
Disabilities other than speech	36	58.3	33	0.0	35	42.9	N/A
Migrant Status							
Migrant	N/A	N/A	0	0.0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Non-migrant	263	91.6	224	11.2	270	71.9	N/A
English Proficiency							
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	1	0.0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Non-Limited English Proficient	263	91.6	223	11.2	270	71.9	N/A
Socio-Economic Status							
Subsidized meals	51	84.3	54	53.7	54	53.7	N/A
Full-pay meals	212	93.4	171	13.5	216	76.4	N/A

n = number of students on which percentage is calculated

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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HSAP PERFORMANCE BY GROUP

	<i>Enrollment 1st Day of Testing</i>	<i>% Tested</i>	<i>% Below Basic</i>	<i>% Basic</i>	<i>% Proficient</i>	<i>% Advanced</i>	<i>% Proficient and Advanced (adj.)</i>	<i>Performance Objective Met</i>	<i>Participation Objective Met</i>
English/Language Arts – State Performance Objective = 52.3%									
All Students	263	98.1	9.6	33.2	34.8	22.4	64.8	Yes	Yes
Gender									
Male	128	97.7	9.2	42.9	33.6	14.3	57.1	N/A	N/A
Female	135	98.5	9.9	24.4	35.9	29.8	71.8	N/A	N/A
Racial/Ethnic Group									
White	244	98.0	8.5	32.9	35.5	23.1	66.2	Yes	Yes
African American	16	100.0	21.4	42.9	28.6	7.1	42.9	I/S	I/S
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Hispanic	2	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
American Indian/Alaskan	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	I/S
Disability Status									
Not Disabled	229	98.7	3.7	30.7	39.9	25.7	73.9	N/A	N/A
Disabled	34	94.1	50.0	50.0	N/A	N/A	3.1	I/S	I/S
Migrant Status									
Migrant	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Non-Migrant	263	98.1	9.6	33.2	34.8	22.4	64.8	N/A	N/A
English Proficiency									
Limited English Proficient	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	I/S
Non-Limited English Proficient	263	98.1	9.6	33.2	34.8	22.4	64.8	N/A	N/A
Socio-Economic Status									
Subsidized meals	74	94.6	20.0	40.0	30.8	9.2	53.8	Yes	Yes
Full-pay meals	189	99.5	5.9	30.8	36.2	27.0	68.6	N/A	N/A
Mathematics – State Performance Objective = 50.0%									
All Students	263	98.9	15.5	34.7	29.5	20.3	65.3	Yes	Yes
Gender									
Male	128	97.7	14.3	38.7	26.9	20.2	66.4	N/A	N/A
Female	135	100.0	16.7	31.1	31.8	20.5	64.4	N/A	N/A
Racial/Ethnic Group									
White	244	98.8	14.0	35.3	28.9	21.7	66.4	Yes	Yes
African American	16	100.0	42.9	28.6	28.6	N/A	42.9	I/S	I/S
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Hispanic	2	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
American Indian/Alaskan	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	I/S
Disability Status									
Not Disabled	229	99.1	7.8	35.8	33.0	23.4	73.4	N/A	N/A
Disabled	34	97.1	66.7	27.3	6.1	N/A	12.1	I/S	I/S
Migrant Status									
Migrant	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Non-Migrant	263	98.9	15.5	34.7	29.5	20.3	65.3	N/A	N/A
English Proficiency									
Limited English Proficient	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	I/S
Non-Limited English Proficient	263	98.9	15.5	34.7	29.5	20.3	65.3	N/A	N/A
Socio-Economic Status									
Subsidized meals	74	97.3	22.7	43.9	24.2	9.1	54.5	Yes	Yes
Full-pay meals	189	99.5	13.0	31.4	31.4	24.3	69.2	N/A	N/A

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	High Schools with Students Like Ours	Median High School
Students (n= 1,152)				
Retention rate	8.7%	Down from 9.7%	6.5%	7.0%
Attendance rate	95.3%	Up from 94.3%	95.7%	95.5%
Eligible for gifted and talented	24.9%	Up from 8.8%	11.6%	7.9%
With disabilities other than speech	13.9%	Up from 13.8%	10.4%	12.3%
Older than usual for grade	6.9%	Down from 8.4%	7.2%	9.5%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent &/or criminal offenses	0.3%	Down from 1.6%	1.5%	1.2%
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	17.6%	Down from 33.6%	17.6%	11.2%
Successful on AP/IB exams	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Eligible for LIFE Scholarship*	11.2%		23.0%	10.2%
Annual dropout rate	3.5%	Up from 0.5%	2.5%	2.8%
Career/technology students in co-curricular organizations	3.9%	Up from 2.5%	3.3%	3.5%
Enrollment in career/technology center courses	592	Down from 601	811	448
Students participating in worked-based experiences	0.0%	No change	27.0%	24.2%
Career/technology students mastering core competencies	75.9%	Down from 80.3%	80.1%	80.0%
Career/technology completers placed	100.0%	No change	100.0%	99.1%

* Using only SAT/ACT and Grade Point Average requirements.

Teachers (n= 61)

Teachers with advanced degrees	68.9%	Up from 62.1%	57.3%	55.5%
Continuing contract teachers	N/AV		N/AV	N/AV
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	5.1%	N/A	8.1%	9.6%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	5.4%	Up from 1.9%	6.6%	9.9%
Teachers returning from previous year	89.5%	Down from 90.1%	88.9%	86.3%
Teacher attendance rate	95.9%	Up from 95.7%	95.4%	95.3%
Average teacher salary	\$45,729	Up 1.2%	\$43,608	\$42,943
Prof. development days/teacher	6.7 days	Down from 10.3 days	10.5 days	11.2 days

School

Principal's years at school	29.0	Up from 28.0	4.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	29.2 to 1	Down from 32.6 to 1	27.1 to 1	25.7 to 1
Prime instructional time	90.0%	Up from 88.9%	89.7%	89.3%
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$5,390	Up 6.2%	\$6,018	\$6,792
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries*	58.0%	Down from 58.6%	58.8%	55.3%
Percent of expenditures for instruction*	60.6%		64.0%	61.1%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	Up from Good	Excellent	Excellent
Parents attending conferences	79.2%	Up from 69.2%	92.3%	92.8%
SACS accreditation	Yes	No change	Yes	Yes
Character development	Good	Down from Excellent	Good	Good

* Prior year audited financial data are reported.

	Our District	State
Classes in low poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	4.7%	6.2%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	3.9%	10.2%
	State Objective	Met State Objective
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers in this school	0.0%	No
Student attendance in this school *or greater than last year	94.0%*	Yes

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A Not Applicable N/AV Not Available N/C Not Collected N/R Not Reported I/S Insufficient Sample

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Blue Ridge High School Improvement Council and faculty evaluated school programs and school performance during 2005-2006. The mission of the school is to offer each student interdisciplinary experiences that develop the student's intellectual, social, physical, creative, and technological potential in a safe environment.

Improvement strategies have been developed and are ongoing. These efforts include a revised SAT Improvement Plan and a rigorous academic program with broad course offerings.

In addition to a strong academic program, a very successful Band, Chorus, Orchestra and Drama program has been established. The Blue Ridge Marching Band has four State Championships.

A Credit Recovery Program was implemented in January 2006.

A comprehensive curriculum is offered. An unusually strong area is foreign language with four languages and four levels of each.

Blue Ridge continues to foster a climate where all students can succeed in an advocating, nurturing, positive climate.

Students, parents and staff continue to feel good about their school and continue to seek ways for improvement.

Donna Smith, SIC Chair
Kenneth Southerlin, Principal

EVALUATIONS BY TEACHERS, STUDENTS, AND PARENTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	66	180	34
Percent satisfied with learning environment	96.9%	87.2%	76.5%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	96.9%	84.7%	78.8%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	93.8%	90.4%	76.5%

*Only eleventh grade students and their parents were included. For schools without grade 11, only the highest grade was included.